iii) a conjugate comprising a polymeric carrier molecule bound to

a) at least one first and/or second targeting species capable of directly binding a predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle when it is present in a sample that is brought into contact with the solid support, and

b) at least one labelling species,

iv) an application zone for applying the sample comprising a RS virus related biological cell or biological particle, said zone comprising at least one conjugate, said conjugate being movable, and said application zone being in liquid contact with

v) a detection zone for detecting the presence, amount or concentration of said at least one conjugate, said zone further comprising the plurality of a first targeting species bound to the solid support, and optionally

vi) a positive control zone generating a positive control confirming the transfer of at least part of said sample from said application zone to said detection zone.

2. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, wherein the conjugate comprises

i) a polymeric carrier,

ii) at least one connecting moiety attached to the polymeric carrier molecule,

iii) at least one molecular species selected from the group of molecular species consisting of targeting species and labelling species, wherein each of the molecular species is covalently attached to at least one connecting moiety attached to the polymeric carrier molecule,

3. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric carrier molecule comprises connecting moieties in an amount of from about 5 to about 5,000 μmoles per gram of polymeric carrier.

4. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, wherein the RS virus related biological particle capable of being directly bound by a targeting species is a virus particle.

5. ~~(amended).~~ Kit according to claim 4, wherein the virus capable of being directly detected by a targeting species belongs to the genus paramyxoviridae.

6. ~~(amended).~~ Kit according to claim 5, wherein the virus is respiratory syncytial virus.

7. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, wherein the targeting species is selected from the group of species consisting of antigens; haptens; monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies; gene probes; natural and synthetic oligo- and polynucleotides; natural and synthetic mono-, oligo- and polysaccharides; lectins; avidin and streptavidin; biotin; growth factors; hormones; receptor molecules; protein A; and protein G.

8. ~~(amended).~~ Kit according to claim 7, wherein the targetting species is selected from monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies.

9. ~~(amended).~~ Kit according to claim 8, wherein the targetting species is an antibody recognising a nucleoprotein of RS virus or a glycoprotein of RS virus.

10. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, wherein the labelling species is selected from the group of species consisting of proteins; enzymes; toxins; drugs; dyes; fluorescent, luminescent, phosphorescent and other light-emitting substances cells; metal-chelating substances; substances labelled with a radioactive isotope; and substances labelled with a heavy atom.

11. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, wherein the labelling species is selected from the group of species consisting of ferritin, phycoerythrins, phycocyanins, phycobilins, horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, glucose oxidases, galactosidases, ureases, iminodiacetic acid, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, and desferrioxamine B.

12. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the first and second targeting species are identical.

13. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the first and second targeting species are non-identical.

14. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group of polymers consisting of natural and synthetic polysaccharides; homopoly amino acids; natural and synthetic polypeptides and proteins; and synthetic polymers having nucleophilic functional groups.

15. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group of polymers consisting of polyvinyl alcohols, polyallyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols and substituted polyacrylates.

16. (amended). Kit according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of dextrans, carboxymethyl-dextrans, starches, hydroxyethyl-starches, hydroxypropyl-starches, glycogen, agarose derivatives, cellulose derivatives and natural gums.

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17. (amended). Kit according to claim 16, wherein the polymeric carrier is a dextran.

18. (amended). Kit according to claim16, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl-celluloses and hydroxypropyl-celluloses.

19. (amended). Kit according claim 1, said kit being a dip-stick.

20. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, said kit being adapted for a microsystem.

21. (amended). Kit according to claim 1, further comprising means for detecting at least one inflammatory indicator.

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22. ~~(amended)~~. Kit according to claim 21, wherein the at least one inflammatory indicator is a cytokine.

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23. ~~(amended)~~. Kit according to claim 22, comprising means for detecting at least 3 different cytokines.

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24. (amended). Method of detecting a predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle present in a sample, said method comprising the steps of

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i) providing a kit for directly detecting a RS virus related biological cell or biological particle present in a sample in an amount of less than about 2000 cells or biological particles per microlitre (10^{-6} litre), said kit comprising

A) a solid support, and

B) a plurality of a first targeting species bound to the solid support, said targeting species being capable of directly binding a predetermined RS virus related

biological cell or biological particle when it is present in a sample that is brought into contact with the solid support, and

C) a conjugate comprising a polymeric carrier molecule bound to

a) at least one first and/or second targeting species capable of directly binding a predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle when it is present in a sample that is brought into contact with the solid support, and

b) at least one labelling species,

D) an application zone for applying the sample comprising a RS virus related biological cell or biological particle, said zone comprising at least one conjugate, said conjugate being movable, and said application zone being in liquid contact with

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E) a detection zone for detecting the presence, amount or concentration of said at least one conjugate, said zone further comprising the plurality of a first targetting species bound to the solid support, and optionally

F) a positive control zone generating a positive control confirming the transfer of at least part of said sample from said application zone to said detection zone.

ii) contacting the sample with the kit of step i), and

iii) detecting a conjugate capable of binding the predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle,

wherein the detection of the conjugate is indicative of the presence of the RS virus related biological cell or biological particle in the sample.

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25. ~~(amended)~~. Method according to claim 24, wherein the sample is a body fluid sample.

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26. ~~(amended)~~. Method according to claim 24, said kit further comprising means for detecting at least one predetermined inflammatory indicator.

27. ~~(amended)~~. Method according to claim 26, wherein the inflammatory indicator is present in the sample in an amount of less than about 100 nanograms (100×10^{-9} grams) per millilitre (10^{-3} litre).

28. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the polymeric carrier molecule comprises i) a plurality of at least one connecting moiety attached to polymeric carrier group, and ii) at least one molecular species selected from the group of molecular species consisting of targeting species and labelling species, wherein each of the molecular species is attached to at least one connecting moiety attached to the polymeric carrier molecule.

29. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the targeting species is selected from the group of species consisting of antigens; haptens; monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies; gene probes; natural and synthetic oligo- and polynucleotides; natural and synthetic mono-, oligo- and polysaccharides; lectins; avidin and streptavidin; biotin; growth factors; hormones; receptor molecules; protein A; and protein G.

30. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the labelling species is selected from the group of species consisting of proteins; enzymes; toxins; drugs; dyes; fluorescent, luminescent, phosphorescent and other light-emitting substances; metal-chelating substances; substances labelled with a radioactive isotope; and substances labelled with a heavy atom.

31. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the labelling species is selected from the group of species consisting of ferritin, phycoerythrins, phycocyanins, phycobilins, horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, glucose oxidases, galactosidases, ureases, iminodiacetic acid, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid, and desferrioxamine B.

32. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group of polymers consisting of natural and synthetic polysaccharides; homopoly amino acids; natural and synthetic polypeptides and proteins; and synthetic polymers having nucleophilic functional groups.

33. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group of polymers consisting of polyvinyl alcohols, polyallyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols and substituted polyacrylates.

34. (amended). Method according to claim 24, wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of dextrans, carboxymethyl-dextrans, starches, hydroxyethyl-starches, hydroxypropyl-starches, glycogen, agarose derivatives, cellulose derivatives and natural gums.

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35. ~~(amended).~~ Method according to claim 34, wherein the polymeric carrier is a dextran.

36. (amended). Method according to claim 24 , wherein the polymeric carrier is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl-celluloses and hydroxypropyl-celluloses.

37. (amended). Method according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inflammatory indicator is selected from the group consisting of agonists from the IL-1 system, preferably IL-1α, IL-1β, IL-1ra, autoantibodies against IL-1α, sIL1-RI and sIL1-RII.

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38. (amended). Method according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inflammatory indicator is selected from the group consisting of agonists from the TNFα system, preferably sTNFR p55 and p75.

39. (amended). Method according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inflammatory indicator is selected from the group consisting of IL-6 and autoantibodies against IL-6.

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40. ~~(amended).~~ Method according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined inflammatory indicator is selected from the group consisting of IL-12, sIL-4R, TNFβ (LT), INFγ, IL-4, and IL-10.

41. (amended). Method according to claims 26, wherein the predetermined inflammatory indicator is selected from the group consisting of IL-2, RANTES, IL-8, sIL-2R, IL-18, IFNα, and eosinophil cationic protein.

42. (amended). A method for diagnosing a RS virus infectious condition in an individual, said method comprising the steps of

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i) providing a kit for directly detecting a RS virus related biological cell or biological particle present in a sample in an amount of less than about 2000 cells or particles per microlitre (10^{-6} litre), said kit comprising

A) a solid support, and

B) a plurality of a first targeting species bound to the solid support, said targeting species being capable of directly binding a predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle when it is present in a sample that is brought into contact with the solid support, and

C) a conjugate comprising a polymeric carrier molecule bound to

a) at least one first and/or second targeting species capable of directly binding a predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle when it is present in a sample that is brought into contact with the solid support, and

b) at least one labelling species,

D) an application zone for applying the sample comprising a RS virus related biological cell or biological particle, said zone comprising at least one conjugate, said conjugate being movable, and said application zone being in liquid contact with

E) a detection zone for detecting the presence, amount or concentration of said at least one conjugate, said zone further comprising the plurality of a first targetting species bound to the solid support, and optionally

F) a positive control zone generating a positive control confirming the transfer of at least part of said sample from said application zone to said detection zone.

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ii) contacting the sample with the kit of step i), and

iii) detecting a conjugate capable of binding the predetermined RS virus related biological cell or biological particle, wherein the detection of the conjugate is indicative of the presence of the RS virus related biological cell or biological particle in the sample.

iv) diagnosing said infectious condition.

43. (amended). The method according to claim 42 comprising the steps of

i) detecting a predetermined inflammatory indicator present in a body fluid sample, and

ii) detecting a predetermined inflammatory indicator present in a body fluid sample, and

iii) diagnosing said infectious condition.